

REMARKS**I. Response to Office Action Mailed December 20, 2004**

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-14 and 16-18 are pending. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 10, 12, 14 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,892,535 ("Allen") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,668,841 ("Haskell") and U.S. Patent No. 5,859,949 ("Yanagihara"). Additionally, the Examiner objected to claims 2, 4-9, 11, 13, 15 and 18 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants thank the Examiner for reissuing the prior office action after entry of the new POA.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 10 and 14 to include the elements of dependent claims 2, 11 and 15 respectively. Claims 2, 11 and 15, which were previously objected to, have been canceled. Although the Examiner objected to claims 5-9, claim 5 is already in independent form, and therefore currently allowable along with dependent claims 6-9.

II. Summary of November 19, 2003 Interview

During the interview, Brian Harris and Examiner Vincent discussed various amendments to claims 1, 5 and 14 in order to clarify the language of the claims but not for the purpose of overcoming any cited references. The amendments discussed during that interview are set forth in the latest Office Action. The current version of claims 1, 5 and 14 in this response include the Examiner's amendments, although those amendments have not been underlined to denote them as current amendments.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. If any questions or issues remain, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorney, Brian Harris, at his direct dial number (312) 913-3303.

Respectfully submitted,

**MCDONNELL BOEHNEN
HULBERT & BERGHOFF LLP**

Dated: 2/3/05

By:



Brian R. Harris
Reg. No. 45,900

Best Available Copy